

# Minutes of High Street Ward SNT Meeting

Held on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2015

At The Mall – Walthamstow

## Present:

Philip Herlihy - Chair (PH)  
PC Matt Fletcher (MF)  
PC Aaron Barnes –Weston (ABW)  
Councillor Liaquat Ali (LA)  
Councillor Mahmood Hussain (MH)  
Councillor Raja Anwar (RA)  
Themis Kyprianou - Ascham Homes (TK)  
Andre Henry (AH)  
Frances Shoesmith (FS)  
Tommy Anderson (TA)  
Pauline Leader (PL)  
Katie Pomeroy (KP)

## Apologies:

Sergeant Jay Champion (JC)  
Jeff Fernandez (JF)  
Nelia Cetin (NC)  
Sandra de Costa (SdC)  
Norman Minter (NM)

	Details	Action
1.	<b>Remembering Katy Andrews</b>  PH asked the members to observe a gesture of Remembrance for Katy Andrews who suddenly passed away in June. Katy was a great community activist who and would be missed by many. All members observed a Remembrance Gesture for Katy. .	
2.	<b>Minutes were agreed</b>	
3.	<b>Introduction and Welcome</b>  PH asked members to observe the guidelines which were agreed at last meeting. Members agreed.  New member Pauline Leader was welcomed into the meeting. Pauline takes over from Tim Bennett-Goodman.	
4.	<b>Updates from Previous Meeting</b>  <b>Burglary Figures</b> MF to provide figures of offenders of burglary caught compared to the burglaries that occurred at the next meeting.	<b>MF</b>

### **St. James Street Issues**

MF reported that police continue to patrol the area and there has been some improvement in the area but need more manpower to effectively reduce crime on St. James. Community Action Group meets once a month to engage and offer support to people. He further reported that the Drug and Alcohol unit have merged their services and are now called Lifeline Waltham Forest. For more information phone 020 3826 9600, email [lifeline.walthamforest@lifeline.org.uk](mailto:lifeline.walthamforest@lifeline.org.uk) or visit [www.lifelinewalthamforest.org.uk](http://www.lifelinewalthamforest.org.uk)

A long discussion followed on the problems facing St. James's strip and how best to tackle the issues facing residents who live in close proximity.

TA reported that a congregation of youths "runners" around the Charity Shop who would normally take clients round the alleyway where they are met by the older boys who would do the "deal".

MF reported that they will continue to monitor.

PH asked where does St. James' fit in the overall priority? FM reported that it fluctuates and a lot depends on figures. MOPAC 7 offences will take priority. The team is community led and will always prioritise on a needs basis.

PH asked where did St. James' problems rank in the Borough? MF reported that it was one of the main priorities.

FS asked whether CCTV would have any impact on the issues? MF state that CCTV can be difficult at times as not always effective in capturing all areas.

TA gave a passionate speech about the problems encountered by residents on a daily basis and urged Councillor Liat Ali who holds the portfolio for Community Safety to consider installing permanent CCTV on St. James. He voiced his concerns around community safety and stated that the Big Local (Lottery Funded Charity) will be spending £1M over the next 10 years to improve quality of life for residents who live and work in St. James but residents still need protection.

LA acknowledged TA's request and reported that £100M has been lost in the budget due to cut backs but still managed to reduce crime in Waltham Forest thanks to partnership working. He proudly announced that Waltham Forest had the

	<p>biggest reduction of crime from whole of London. He stated that extra resources have been put in to tackle this problem but High Street is a big area and still a lot more work needs to be done.</p> <p>AH stated that as St. James is such a Hot Spot area for crime more energy needs to be put into tackling the problem.</p> <p>PH asked LA how many CCTV cameras were there in the High Street Ward. LA to provide information at next meeting.</p> <p>He also asked RA what youth provision/facilities are available in the Ward. RA to provide this information at next meeting. KP asked what work, plans/opportunities are offered to the youths to channel their activities into more positive routes.</p> <p>LA reported that the Troubled Families framework works with families with multi complex problems to provide support and advice and tackles problems such as ASB, employment, drug and alcohol issues, homelessness.</p> <p>MH reported that Community Mosques are very active in youth services and provide support and advice to youths.</p> <p><b>Twilight Market</b></p> <p>MF reported that plans for this are still in discussion but potentially an opportunity to hold a market once or maybe twice a month on a Thursday evening from 6.00pm – 10.00pm with 50 stalls selling anything from food to crafts. Cllr. CC is leading on this.</p> <p><b>Police Now</b></p> <p>No further recruitment at present.</p> <p><b>Posters</b></p> <p>PH reported that MOPAC money cannot be used for this under their rules.</p> <p><b>Tenby Update</b></p> <p>TK reported that since the installation of car park gates and additional security grilles to pram sheds ASB has reduced at Tenby Court. The trees in the car park area have been pruned and “thinned out” where appropriate to provide more visibility.</p> <p><b>Raves in Coppermill Lane</b></p> <p>MF reported that Intelligence Unit monitors activity and have powers to shut them down. They work alongside ASB officers to tackle problem. This joined up approach to work has been increasingly effective, although problems still occur</p>	<p><b>LA</b></p> <p><b>RA</b></p>
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5.	<p><b>Promises and Update from Previous meeting</b></p> <p><b>Crime Figures (12 week reporting period)</b>  <b>Burglary 11</b> – reduction of 4 from previous 12 week figures  <b>Robbery 10</b> - reduction of 4 from previous 12 week figures  <b>MV Crime 21</b> – Increase of 4 from previous 12 week figures</p> <p>Pretoria Avenue – Warrant Issued and one arrest made</p> <p>70 Arrests were made in the last 7/8 weeks of a broad range of crimes including the seizure of 150 bags of cocaine.</p> <p>ABW thanked the Centre Manager for his support in working closely with the SNT to report crime in the Centre.</p> <p>Knife Crime - 6 reported with a Samurai sword found in a property.</p> <p>PH suggested that as problems on St. James' are so severe it would be advisable to change one of the Ward Promises to include drug dealing. The members agreed that this is a good way forward.</p> <p>Ward Promises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drug Dealing</li> <li>• Street Drinkers/ASB</li> <li>• Violence Against the Person</li> </ul>	
6.	<p><b>Walthamstow Marshes</b></p> <p>LA reported that the investigations are ongoing into the allegations of sexual crimes on multiple suspects and a lot more work needs to be done.</p> <p>KP raised her concerns over lack of information and the need to improve communications as safety is paramount for all.</p> <p>ABW reported that information can be obtained from Police official Press Release Office.</p> <p>FS suggested a cocoon approach (leaflet drop).</p>	

	<p>MF reported that the area is patrolled and police are engaging with people.</p> <p>PH asked for a review of how panel members (and so other residents) are kept updated about changes in the local situation (e.g. increased prevalence of sexual offences on the Marshes). PH stated that he believed this was overdue for attention.</p> <p><b>Met Trace</b> – No further information in regards to this.</p> <p>PH reported that MOPAC funded 4 community projects to enhance quality of life.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fit Locks for Vulnerable People</li> <li>• Works with Vulnerable people at risk in Belmont Estate</li> <li>• Peer Mentors</li> <li>• Custody Suite outreach project</li> </ul>	<b>MF</b>
7.	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>TA reported that the Big Local are having a Jumble Trail on 13<sup>th</sup> September asking all residents to get involved in a table top jumble sale at their property and follow the trail and hunt for treasures.</p> <p>TA reported that the Petrol Station on Tenby Road is selling food late at night and it is rumoured that the landlord is applying for a drink's licence.</p> <p>MF stated that he would liaise with council ASB Officers and investigate this further.</p> <p>MH reported that they are looking into plans of redeveloping the area and the petrol station will probably come down in two/three years' time.</p> <p>LA reported that the new Borough Commander starts in September..</p>	
8.	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b></p> <p><b>TBA</b></p>	<b>MF</b>